

MINUTES
PAGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2010

Members Present: Johnny Woodward, Chairman, At Large
Robert Griffith, District 1
Larry Sours, District 2
J. D. Cave, District 3
Gerald Cubbage, District 4
Jeff Vaughan, District 5

Staff Present: Dr. Thomas Cardman, County Administrator
Regina Miller, Executive Secretary

EDA Present: Lowell Baughan
William Shuler
Gary Morris
David Sours
Mike Uram
Carolyn Miller, Secretary

Media & Others Present: Michael Hyland, WHSV TV-3
Luther Johnson, *Page News & Courier*
30 Citizens

Call to Order:

Chairman Johnny Woodward called to order the regular meeting of the Page County Board of Supervisors on January 19, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Luray High School auditorium, noting a quorum was present. This was followed by the *Pledge of Allegiance* and the Invocation.

Lowell Baughan, Chairman of the Economic Development Authority, called to order the meeting of the Economic Development Authority.

Adoption of the Agenda:

Motion:

Supervisor Cubbage moved to adopt the agenda. Supervisor Sours seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0; aye: Griffith, Sours, Cave, Cubbage, Vaughan, Woodward.

Update on Project Clover:

Chairman Woodward explained that the main purpose of the joint meeting is to provide information on Project Clover to the citizens. He indicated that Premier Technical Services (PTS) is about 95% ready to be built and are intending to break ground the end of March or first of April. If this is accomplished, it is projected the first phase of the

project will be in operation by the end of 2010. Regarding the \$300,000 grant from the state to PTS, it has been asked who has this money; PTS has the money. Page County is not obligated for any part of the money. However, the state gave the money through the County and it went to Premier. If the PTS data center is built, it will help offset the cost of Project Clover. If it does not occur, another company could build on the Project Clover site. He mentioned that he could not disclose any additional information regarding another company at this time because of information being in non-disclosure. It is a possibility, he said, that these two projects could occur simultaneously. If neither project happens, then, in July, the Board would have to review the financial situation of funding for the Project. There is a payment due on the property in January 2010 and Ms. Hudson has agreed to postpone the payment until July 2010. Therefore, there is six months to produce activity to help fund the project so they taxpayers would not have to pay for it. Premier will provide 96 jobs for the County, he said. Chairman Woodward then stated that he has informed Dr. Cardman that the EDA should select the 38.67 acres of land as stipulated in the contract.

Supervisor Sours added that Project Clover does not depend on the success of Premier Technical Services. It does depend on the taxes paid by Premier to the County. It will not be located on Project Clover property but will be located on property already owned by the County, which adjoins Project Clover. Hopefully, Premier will happen as well as the other businesses discussed under non-disclosure. However, there is still hope without Premier.

Supervisor Cubbage expressed optimism that Premier will break ground because the economy of Page County depends on it.

EDA Chairman Lowell Baughan summarized that the EDA currently owns 211 acres at that property. They currently have a bridge loan with Ms. Hudson and are seeking permanent financing for that property with Rural Development, which will lower the interest rate and the County's payments on the property. The EDA owns the property on which Premier plans to locate and without the ownership they would not be here. Further, without the ownership of Project Clover the other prospects they are talking to would not be considering locating in the County.

Public Comments on Project Clover:

Doris Lansberry expressed that she has concerns with Premier and the Project Clover purchase. The EDA is a separate entity from the Board and the County. Therefore, the debt of the EDA is not the debt of the taxpayers, but a debt of EDA. On December 9, 2008, the Board passed a Resolution of support for the purchase of the property. In the Resolution, it was stated that nothing contained therein shall be deemed to be a lending of credit of the County to EDA or Ms. Hudson and nothing in the Resolution shall be deemed to giving good faith credit for the taxing powers of the County. In addition, the Resolution should not legally bind or obligate the Board to appropriate the funds for the purchase. She said all of the taxes paid by Premier would not cover the principle and interest payments due on the note. The EDA, she said, relied solely on taxpayer money to purchase the land. It is her understanding that the Board does not have the money to

pay the principle and interest due January 15, 2010; therefore, Ms. Hudson is willing to defer the payment. There is a VDOT traffic impact study that says U. S. Route 340 is not conducive to commercial truck traffic. To her knowledge, the County has nothing in writing from Norfolk & Southern committing to performing rail work that might be needed in order to transport manufactured goods to another site. More importantly, the concern is the tremendous tax burden the Board has placed on the citizens.

Erik Lerche asked that the Board send a letter to USDA Rural Development stating that the Board does not support the loan request by the Page County EDA to purchase Project Clover. He said the Board should not support fund transfers to the EDA for payment on the Project Clover note. The County should offer no financial support to the EDA for the next two years, not even to pay for legal and administrative expenses. The Board, he stated, needs to ask the EDA to return 211 acres, minus the 38 acres purchased with the down payment, to Rebecca Hudson and not renegotiate the note. Mr. Lerche commented that the EDA should retain a new law firm. The current EDA directors and the EDA legal counsel have lost the trust and confidence of the citizens. The Board should amend the County Code to limit the number of technology type buildings to one and limit the number of all other types of buildings to zero. This will limit EDA activity for two years until new directors can be appointed. The Board should make the statement in the Code that the County will never again legally or morally commit county-wide tax revenue to the issuance of EDA revenue notes or bonds. Lastly, he stated that the Board should remove Tom Cardman as the Executive Director of the EDA and should eliminate the position of Director of Economic Development.

Barbara Coulter commented that the three new Board members have stated they were not in favor of Project Clover. She is counting on them to fulfill their campaign promises when the issue of funding comes up in the future. She feels the District 3 Supervisor will join them since he voted against the rezoning of the property. She said she is sure the Board is under pressure from the EDA and County Administrator to bail out the EDA with taxpayer money with regard to Project Clover. She stated that questions on the viability of Project Clover have been presented over the past year and have gone unanswered but big concerns remain. This remains a speculative venture of high risk and high taxpayer costs with nebulous benefits to the community. During an economic downturn, it's sometimes wise to invest, but you need two things; you have to be able to afford it and it should be a real bargain. Now is the time for fiscal restraint. If the EDA wants to do something risky, it should develop and use its own revenue stream and not depend on taxpayer dollars. The EDA should not have issued a revenue note with no one to back it and without a fallback position in place. Economic development is only part of the Board's responsibility. It is also tasked with keeping this County out of unsustainable debt in the process. She asked the Board to concentrate on marketing and developing the 38 acres and to continue investing in most businesses that utilize what is unique to Page County.

Chet Taylor expressed that he is opposed to Project Clover for reasons stated by preceding speakers and for reasons of his own. He feels that it will place a burden on the taxpayers, and is specifically concerned about the need for infrastructure to make

Project Clover a viable industrial park , as well as who will pay for it. Project Clover, he said, is an attempt to change our County from agricultural and tourism to something else. He asked the Board to direct the tax money and attention to those industries upon which our County has been built and will continue to grow and prosper in agriculture and tourism. During the recent campaign, all three of the new Supervisors stated their intention to end Project Clover. He asked them not to forget their campaign promises.

Jim Turner asked a series of questions. The payment that was due this month was moved to July, will interest be paid on the interest payment? When the contract was signed in December 2008, where did the EDA and Board anticipate the payment to come from? During the campaign, one of the candidates made a comment that he believed there was corruption involved in Project Clover. Does this person still feel this way or has he changed his mind? Would Board members invest their own money in this project?

John Rogerson commented that Project Clover needs to be buried. He stated that Tom Cardman, Monte Layman, Dave Tong, and Lowell Baughan all have a conflict of interest in this Project. The County paid \$7.5 million for the property and no one has ever explained why we paid \$40,000 per acre for farm land. This property is farm land but an industrial price was paid for it. He asked that the Board take their 38 acres and stop the project before it does anymore harm.

Darrell Short stated that business plans in Page County must change and he hopes that the Board will make the change. Promises have been made not to raise taxes but he asked what affect this will have on taxes 10 years from now. He said we cannot allow Page County to become a bedroom community but this is what is going to happen because this is what we have to offer. Some people say that Project Clover will raise their taxes; on the contrary, he believes what will raise taxes is an industrial tax base. Agriculture and tourism are important in this County but we have a lot of vacant poultry houses and what are we going to do with them. Our investment in Page County must include the most basic need of all – a place for these employers to locate and Project Clover provides that place. He noted that the issue of cost should be addressed and there are valid concerns that many people share. He said we need to position ourselves to provide a future that involves good paying jobs, which will allow farmers to farm, while being close to work and home. We must have the foresight to lay the foundation today for something that may not come to fruition for many years.

Dan Coughlin asked if any Board member would pay five times what something is worth for anything. The property was assessed at \$1.5 million and the County is paying \$7.5 million. He said this is not right and the Board and EDA know it and the citizens look to them to do something about it.

Chairman Woodward addressed Mr. Rogerson's comments. He stated that Mr. Rogerson had asked who placed Public Comments at the beginning of the agenda. He said he had it placed there because he wanted everyone to have an opportunity to speak on the topic, specifically so the new Board members could hear the concerns.

The Board was previously presented with a petition containing about 2,000 signatures of citizens against this project. He agreed that \$40,000 is too much per acre for land. Even though he is not in favor of this project or the amount of money paid, he is in favor of the opportunity for jobs. He indicated that he has to say the opportunities are non-disclosure for legal purposes or he would be in violation for disclosing information. This discussion is being held because the three new Supervisors campaigned on Project Clover and are living up to their commitment.

Question & Answers:

Questions were asked during the public comment period and answers were provided as follows.

- The January payment due in July, will there be interest on the interest?

Mr. Baughan replied that there is interest on the deferred payment. Because it is deferred six months, we owe Ms. Hudson interest on the money that she could otherwise have in January for her own use. This is a common business practice. The amount is approximately \$9,000.

- Why wasn't land that was already zoned industrial considered?

Mr. Baughan remarked that it was considered, but most of the property that is already zoned for this purpose, such as the land in the Luray Industrial Park, has other problems with it. One of which is that the Town of Luray requires a special use permit, which basically puts that land out of bounds for bringing anyone in because companies do not want to invest on property with special use permits, which may be lifted at a political whim; therefore, it affects their financing. Additionally, a lot of the property that is currently zoned in the County is not acceptable or not large enough for what we want.

- During the campaign, a candidate said there was corruption in Project Clover. Does he still feel that way?

Supervisor Griffith stated that Jim Turner was referring to him when he made that statement to Channel 3. The reason he said that was because he believed there was the appearance of a conflict of interest within the land purchase. He said he still stands by that statement.

Supervisor Vaughan reassured that what he said and committed to can be taken to the bank. This Board will be making decisions as a business. Their path is to straighten out what other Board members may have made decision on and not at the cost of the taxpayer's revenue. He expressed disappointment that there were no more citizens present for this topic. He said he spoke very little during the campaign, but what he did speak about, he will continue to support. There are a lot of decisions that have to be made on a project like this. In response to Mr. Turner's question on whether he would spend is personal money, the answer is no. He will spend the taxpayer's money like he spends his own.

- Has there been a commitment from Norfolk and Southern regarding rail expansion?

Dr. Cardman indicated that the commitment from Norfolk and Southern comes from their current capital improvement plan that delineates and states where they will do rail expansion along the property's edge. The Virginia Rail Authority has granted Norfolk and Southern a sizeable grant to accomplish this project. The project is under the direction of Norfolk and Southern and they will decide when it will commence.

- The VDOT study says that U. S. Route 340 is not compatible with truck traffic.

Dr. Cardman said this is not what the study says. The study says that, when and if additional truck traffic is directed on that road, there is a plan for it and there is signalization in the plan. VDOT has shown attention to the shoulders for 340 North/South between Luray and Stanley in their six-year plan. So, there are accommodations for increased traffic, especially truck traffic within the VDOT study.

- Is the County bound to fulfill the EDA's obligations?

Chairman Woodward responded that the answer is no.

Dr. Cardman indicated that during Mr. Lerche's comments, he asked that the EDA minutes be provided at the Administration Building. He clarified that those minutes are provided by the EDA at the building and have always been provided there. They are also accessible to everyone and are posted on the EDA website.

- Can the EDA change their meetings to the Courthouse at 7:00 p.m., instead of holding them midday so more people can attend the meeting?

Mr. Baughan informed that he polled the membership of the Authority and there is more attendance by the members at the luncheon meetings than at previously held evening meetings because most of the members are busy people. At this date and time, their meetings are at 12 noon on the third Thursday of the month. He also addressed the egregious remark about the free lunch. The lunch is paid for out of the member's pocket by reducing the amount of money they are entitled to for a meeting. So, it is not a free lunch.

- Who is going to pay for the infrastructure?

Mr. Baughan stated that the primary payment for infrastructure comes to us because we are a public Authority. Because the land is owned by a public Authority, we are eligible for grants, primarily from the state for infrastructure. Most of those infrastructure grants are given based on job creation so that when we bring an industry into the County, the state is willing to give money for the extension of sewer and water and road systems based on the number of jobs created. The state is giving \$700,000 to extend sewer and

water from the Town of Stanley to this site because Premier Technical Services is providing 96 jobs. The state, through VDOT, is building the access road from Goodrich Road through the adjacent Premier site to the doorstep of Project Clover for \$300,000, which is also based on job creation. The County does not have to pay anything. Relative to the concerns on the cost of infrastructure, it is developed as the project develops based upon the job creation of the businesses we bring in there and this is not County money.

➤ Mr. Turner raised a question about appraisals.

Mr. Baughan stated that the EDA received a number of appraisals. He noted that since the County is not in the business of condemning land, they went looking for property, which met their criteria and had to find willing sellers. The property they purchased was the second lowest cost per acre of any property they considered. The actual cost was \$35,700 per acre. The next lowest was approximately \$60,000 per acre. In order to get the site they need to bring business in, they were willing to pay a premium for this property. He noted that it is hard to find a 200 acre site in Page County that is level and located on one of our major highways, within reasonable distance of sewer and water. These are all assets businesses seek. He remarked that no business has ever come into Page County, other than the locally developed, where the County did not provide some financial incentive. We have to be willing to make this investment if we are going to ask the state to give \$1 million. If the County is not willing to give some money, then the state will not give any money and they are not going to send business. If we can't get industry to come in here, the tax burden for the new schools and for County services is going to fall on the homeowners. He stated if the citizens are concerned about their taxes going up, they should be backing the EDA to the hilt to get industry into this community. The only way it is going to happen is to be ready. They do not come and ask us to find them a place. They come and ask if we already have a place zoned that you can get sewer and water to reasonably quickly, located on a highway and is relatively flat. If we do not have this, they will not come. If they do not come, we do not get the payroll or the tax base and citizens will pay for the County services on residential property.

On another question, Mr. Baughan indicated that Mr. Rogerson raised the issue about Premier getting a lot of County money. He said he cannot speak to the telephone contract because that is not within the purview of the EDA. The County has given no money to Premier and they are not going to give money to Premier.

Mr. Baughan said Mr. Rogerson also referred to a \$700,000 payment in July. He said he does not know where he is getting that number from; it is not true. We owe Mrs. Hudson \$378,000 in July and this is the deferred payment from January.

Supervisor Cabbage explained that he was interested in pursuing the Hudson property as a way to get the tax burden off of real estate. Without industry, the tax base depends on real estate, and until we get industry, there will not be any relief for the taxpayer. The County, he said, has nothing to gain by becoming a bedroom community. He

stated that we lost one business because we did not have property and businesses will not wait until the County secures the property. Even though it has been insinuated a high price was paid for Project Clover, he felt that no one in the audience would sell their property for its assessment. He would like to see Page County have industries where we can have local jobs for the children.

Chairman Woodward noted that he has asked the question many times if we can renegotiate the price of Project Clover within the next six months or before the first payment is due.

Doris Lansberry commented that one of the documents in her possession refers to the purchase of the Alma Treatment Plant for approximately \$10 million.

Dr. Cardman outlined that when the due diligence was performed on the concept of a business park they worked with the Town of Stanley to assess their sewer and water capacity in their treatment plant. During this process, they found out that several years ago, the Alma Treatment Plant was offered to the Town of Stanley as a possibility for their water treatment system. They agreed, with the Town, to study to probability of using the Alma Treatment Plant as part of their water and sewer system. When it was determined that the cost would be \$10 million, then no recommendation was made to the EDA or the Board of Supervisors to proceed with purchase or association with the Alma Treatment Plant.

Ms. Lansberry stated that the Performance Agreement between the EDA and Premier provides for 96 jobs at a salary of about \$65,000+, but after reading through the agreement she found no mention of where the jobs must go to Page County citizens.

Dr. Cardman clarified that the document indicates that 51% of the jobs created by Premier must be afforded to low-to-moderate income individuals. Those job descriptions are on file. There is no requirement by the state grant that those jobs go to any person in any locality. By law, the County cannot limit job applicants by geographic region.

Ms. Lansberry mentioned that, through her political contacts, she has been informed about the possibility of a power plant coming to Page County. She hopes everyone takes into account the health and environmental issues. We do not want someone else's reject. She urged the Board to give this consideration.

Supervisor Sours remarked that Mr. Baughan stated good reasons why this project is needed. In addition, Supervisor Cabbage gave common sense reasons why this project is needed. One of the questions asked was, would you spend your own money on a project like this. If you are a businessman looking for a quick profit, then the answer is no. Two years ago, he made a campaign promise to do his best to get employment in Page County. As a businessman he would not invest his own money, but as a Supervisor of District 2 and a lifelong resident of Page County he is going to do

everything he can. He wants business in Page County and wants to take the chance of business coming here.

Supervisor Cave asked for clarification regarding the Chairman's statement about picking out the 38 acres and if it had been done. Chairman Woodward indicated that the request was given to Dr. Cardman and it has not been surveyed but has been picked out visually by the EDA. Dr. Cardman clarified that there is no survey. There has been a visual representation of where the 38 acres could come from.

Supervisor Cave asked if the January payment was deferred until July because the EDA cannot make the January payment because there is no money. Mr. Baughan stated the EDA asked for deferment in order to get the permanent financing in place. The EDA is approaching the finalization of the loan structure to pay it out. They would like to think they will have the money in July.

Supervisor Cave commented that when served on the EDA they had discussions about a business/industrial park. The idea of a business park is still a good idea. He does not have a problem with the place or price and the location is central to the County and makes good sense. However, the problem he has today is the time. We have an economic slowdown and there are not too many businesses waiting to get into a business park in Page County, or anywhere. He thinks they need to take a step back and reassess this project and this is why he is interested in the 38 acres. "Pulling the plug" could be a viable and a possible alternative, he said. He previously asked the question at least three times, will the purchase of this land necessitate more money from the taxpayers or a tax increase. He was told on all three occasions – no. If this is still the case, it is a good thing. In 41 days it will be March 1 and the clock will strike midnight again for Mr. Dave Tong and Premier Technical Services on their financing. They will come back to the EDA and ask for another extension and the EDA will have another meeting with the Board to inform them they will grant another extension. Does this mean the taxpayer of Page County will have to pay the bill? He hopes not. Regarding a tax increase, the public knows his position. He is one Board member who will not vote for a tax increase. He hopes Project Clover is successful and is willing to give it a little more time, but feels they need to have a contingency plan, for example the 38 acres. He indicated that with each passing day he becomes more skeptical about this entire project but hopes it succeeds.

Supervisor Vaughan thanked the citizens for attending the meeting and for their comments. He noted that it is important to realize the County needs a balance of farming, economic development, and tourism, which does pay bills. This Board has committed to making the best decisions for the future of the County and moving forward.

With no further comments, Mr. Baughan adjourned the Economic Development Authority meeting at 9:09 p.m.

Recess: The Board took a brief recess at 9:09 p.m.

Reconvene: Chairman Woodward reconvened the Board meeting at 9:26 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Boyd Selman commented that he had called the County Administrator's Office earlier in the day to ask the County Administrator why the Compacting/Recycling Centers were closed on Friday, January 15, 2010. He mentioned that he tried to call on Friday to talk to the Administrator but the offices were closed. He stated that the first obligation of the Board is to the County citizens. If the landfill was open for Warren County to be able to dump then the Compacting/Recycling Centers should be open for the citizens. Mr. Henry Mikus was present for the meeting and proceeded to communicate the hours for the Centers and the Landfill. He noted that, due to budget reductions, the Board of Supervisors agreed to close each Center one weekday and Sundays, to reduce the hours by two hours each day, and close six or eight additional holidays. Mr. Selman remarked that the citizens received better trash service when the landfill was closed in 2004. He asked the Board to cater to the Page County citizens. Supervisor Sours clarified that Friday, January 15 was Lee-Jackson Holiday and Monday, January 18 was Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday so this is why the Centers were closed.

Doris Lansberry stated that the problem with the Compacting/Recycling Centers is simple. There should not be a locked gate at the Centers. The Board should trust the citizens to take their trash there anytime. Regarding the low attendance at the meeting, she said people feel it is a waste of time to attend because this Board will not be any different than the previous Board. She then commented again regarding Project Clover. According to the Code of Virginia, she said the EDA can acquire, develop, own, and operate an industrial park and issue bonds as a means of planning an industrial park. She asked why the EDA did not issue bonds to finance an industrial park.

John Rogerson expressed disappointment with the attendance at the meeting.

Lee McWhorter welcomed and wished luck to the new Supervisors. He feels that the Board listens to the citizens and said there have been times when hundreds of people attended meetings. He wishes the Board would inform the public that the EDA issued a revenue bond not a general obligation bond for Project Clover. By having the EDA purchase it, does not obligate the citizens. Lastly, he suggested that citizen comment period be placed at the end of the meeting agenda.

ACTION MATTERS

Erroneous Assessment/Richards Bus Lines:

Dr. Cardman presented the erroneous assessment for Richards Bus Lines in the amount of \$12,170.24.

Motion:

Supervisor Vaughan moved to adopt the Resolution approving the erroneous assessment to Richards Bus Lines in the amount of \$12,170.24. Supervisor Cubbage second and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0; aye: Griffith, Sours, Cave, Cubbage, Vaughan, Woodward.

* * * * *

#10-03
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of the Revenue of Page County, Virginia has certified an erroneous assessment made by his office which exceeds the amount for which the Treasurer of Page County, Virginia may make refunds without Board approval, pursuant to the Resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Page, Virginia on September 19, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the County Attorney has consented to the certificate of the Commissioner that the assessment was erroneous, pursuant of § 58.1-3981(A), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF PAGE, VIRGINIA, as follows:

That Treasurer of Page County, Virginia is directed to refund to Richards Bus Lines the sum of \$12,170.24, plus abatement of any penalty and interest as provided by statute.

* * * * *

Employee Furlough Days:

Dr. Cardman reported that he has reviewed a way to equalize the furlough days. With the Board's approval, all furlough days can be suspended that have occurred in excess of six days by each employee. He noted that for the employees who have taken more than six days, they will receive extra vacation based on the number of hours taken in excess of six days. This will result in the original savings of \$161,000 in this year's budget being reduced to a savings of \$81,000. He asked for the Board's approval to move forward with the furlough day suspension.

Motion:

Supervisor Cubbage moved to take no action. There was no second to the motion with the vote resulting in a tie (3-3); aye: Cubbage, Vaughan, Woodward; nay: Griffith, Sours, Cave.

Supervisor Cubbage remarked that as the Board enters into the budget session there is no value to suspending the furlough days and then having to implement them again. The Board does not know what the next budget holds. Further, this was built into the current year's budget as a cost savings to the taxpayers.

Supervisor Cave commented that the motion is negative. These furlough days do not impact the fiscal year 2010-2011 budget. He reminded the Board that the school system used \$333,145 of their bond principal to the January 2010 interest payment on the 2008

school bonds, thus, realizing a savings to the County budget in this amount. He felt the Board is compounding the issue. He was not in favor of furlough days; it is not a good idea and it sends a bad message.

Supervisor Vaughan stated that this comes down to \$81,000 and asked if this is worth the impact it has had on the morale of the employees. The Board needs to consider the value on that and take action accordingly.

Supervisor Sours said that during last year's budget process when the decision was made to implement furlough days it was one scenario to balance the budget. Another scenario was to abolish departments and employees completely and he did not support that scenario. Many employees expressed that they would rather take furlough days instead of losing their job. If it does not impact the remainder of the year he feels the policy should be suspended and deal with the upcoming budget when the times comes.

Chairman Woodward expressed concern with suspending the furlough days and then having to implement them again.

Motion:

Supervisor Cave moved to suspend the furlough days and restore the days back to the employees. Supervisor Sours seconded with the vote resulting in a tie (3-3); aye: Griffith, Sours, Cave; nay: Cubbage, Vaughan, Woodward.

Budget Changes:

Dr. Cardman reviewed the budget changes with the Board.

Motion:

Supervisor Cubbage moved to transfer or budget and appropriate the requested amount as detailed in the attachments to this agenda item. Supervisor Griffith seconded. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 6-0; aye: Griffith, Sours, Cave, Cubbage, Vaughan, Woodward.

Supplemental Appropriations Approved:

DEPARTMENT	DESCRIPTION	REVENUE SOURCE	EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT
EMT	New Grant Funding	VDEM Emergency Patient Tracking Grant	EMT	\$43,800
Investigations	New Grant Funding	Commonwealth of Virginia Internet Crimes Against Child	Investigations	\$5,000
TOTAL				\$48,800

Board and Commission Appointments:

Planning Commission:

The terms of Dawn Ponn (District 2) and Louis Bosley (District 3) expired on January 11, 2010.

Motion:

Supervisor Sours moved to appoint Sherry Myers to the Planning Commission as the District 2 representative for a four year term expiring on January 10, 2014. Supervisor Cubbage seconded and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0; aye: Griffith, Sours, Cave, Cubbage, Vaughan, Woodward.

Motion:

Supervisor Cave moved to appoint Louis Bosley to the Planning Commission as the District 3 representative for a four year term expiring on January 11, 2014. Supervisor Cubbage seconded and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0; aye: Griffith, Sours, Cave, Cubbage, Vaughan, Woodward.

Building Code Appeals Board:

The terms of William Bowles (District 1) and Doug Rudolph (District 5) expired on December 31, 2009. Both are eligible for reappointment or other persons can be appointed. The term for this Board is four years.

These appointments were deferred until the February 16th meeting.

Economic Development Authority:

The terms of Bob Dagitz (District 1) and Mike Uram (Stanley Representative) will expire on January 31. Both are eligible for reappointment or other persons can be appointed to serve a four year term. The Stanley Town Council met recently and nominated Mr. Uram to serve a second term on the EDA.

Motion:

Supervisor Vaughan moved to appoint Mike Uram to the Economic Development Authority as the Stanley representative for a four year term beginning February 1, 2010 and expiring on January 31, 2014. Supervisor Cubbage seconded and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0; aye: Griffith, Sours, Cave, Cubbage, Vaughan, Woodward.

Motion:

Supervisor Griffith moved to appoint Steve Whisler to the Economic Development Authority as the District 1 representative for a four year term beginning February 1, 2010 and expiring January 31, 2014. Supervisor Vaughan seconded and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0; aye; Griffith, Sours, Cave, Cubbage, Vaughan, Woodward.

Board of Zoning Appeals:

Allan Betcher (District 2) recently resigned from the BZA. Another person will need to be appointed to fill the unexpired term through November 8, 2011.

This appointment was deferred until the February 16th meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion:

Supervisor Vaughan moved to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Financial reports for the period of December 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009;
- Accounts payable checks, payroll checks, payroll direct deposits, and payroll tax related electronic fund transfers totaling \$1,175,822.47;
- Minutes of December 1, 2009 and December 15, 2009.

Supervisor Cubbage seconded. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 6-0; aye: Griffith, Sours, Cave, Cubbage, Vaughan, Woodward.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business for the Board to consider.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business for the Board to consider.

SUPERVISORS TIME

Supervisor Griffith thanked everyone for attending the meeting and voicing their comments. He stated that he listens to what is said and takes it seriously.

Supervisor Sours commented that he would like to see more attendance at the meetings.

Supervisor Cave stated that it was good to have another discussion about Project Clover and he would like to see it get off the ground. He mentioned that for a long time he has had an issue with the time and place of EDA meetings. He mentioned that the Board could finally get their attention if they start changing the members. He requested Mike Uram to bring up this topic with the EDA. Lastly, he asked that the furlough days discussion be placed on the next meeting agenda.

Supervisor Cubbage thanked Mike Uram for serving again on the EDA as Stanley's representative. Regarding the furlough days, he reiterated that he does not have a problem with employees and he appreciates each of them.

Supervisor Vaughan thanked the citizens for attending the meeting. The toughest decision he had to make was the one regarding the furlough days. When it comes to furloughing employees or removing staff the furlough is easier than removing positions. This action has damaged morale and the motivation of employees but the Board needs to move forward. He said he hopes the Board can focus on maintaining the same revenue stream after the reassessment is complete. The Board has to have a constructive plan in moving forward in dealing with growth and services. The County has a limited revenue stream and cuts have to be made but the Board has to manage the departments very efficiently and make them be accountable. The Board needs to assign this task to the County Administrator and his staff and they need to report back to the Board who will ultimately make the decisions that is best for the taxpayers.

Chairman Woodward indicted that it was his decision to hold the informational meeting on Project Clover because when he campaigned he promised it would be the first item on the agenda when he assumed office. He said he is not completely convinced about the project but he believes in giving every business the opportunity to prove itself and this is why he is willing to give it six months. He has asked that the purchase price of Project Clover be renegotiated but has been told it cannot be done. He then thanked the citizens for attending the meeting.

Closed Session: 10:47 p.m.

Motion:

Supervisor Griffith moved that the Page County Board of Supervisors convene in closed session under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act in order to discuss the acquisition of real property for county offices, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia. Supervisor Cabbage seconded. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 6-0; aye: Griffith, Sours, Cave, Cabbage, Vaughan, and Woodward.

Exit Closed Session: 11:35 p.m.

Motion:

Supervisor Griffith moved the closed meeting be adjourned and the Page County Board of Supervisors reconvene in open session. Supervisor Sours seconded and the motion carried by a vote of 6-0; aye: Griffith, Sours, Cave, Cabbage, Vaughan, and Woodward.

Certification of Closed Meeting:

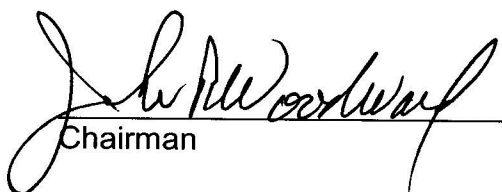
To the best of my knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Section 2.2-3711(A) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting.

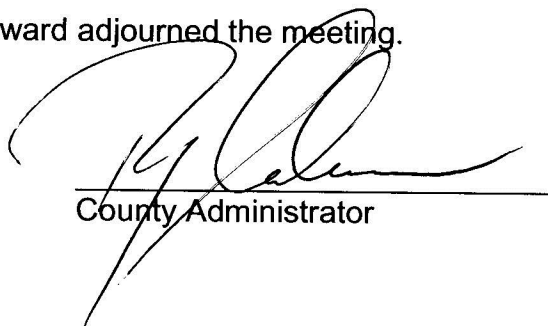
<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Robert Griffith	X			
Larry Sours	X			
J. D. Cave	X			
Gerald Cabbage	X			
Jeff Vaughan	X			
Johnny Woodward	X			

There was no action as a result of Closed Session

Adjourn: 11:40 p.m.

With no further business, Chairman Woodward adjourned the meeting.


Chairman


County Administrator